THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Constructive engagement with foreign navies is one of the activities during the peace time. For this purpose exercises are conducted from time to time on regular basis. These are planned along with the routine deployment of ships and aircraft within the budgetary allocation of the Navy for the said purpose. In the same manner, joint exercises are also conducted by the Army and the Air Force.

Steps to check rising accidents of MIG planes

1402. SHRI N.K. SINGH:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of MIG fighter planes have crashed since the last few decades causing loss of lives and properties as a result thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof?

(c) whether Government had constituted various committees to ascertain the exact causes of MIG crashes and also to suggest recommendations to improve the record in that respect;

(d) if so, the details of reports submitted by such committees; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to check rising accidents of MIG planes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) In the last two decades (since April 1989 and up to 26th November, 2009) 265 MiG fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force have crashed. A total of 96 service personnel and 44 civilians were killed in these cases.

(c) to (e) Each aircraft accident in the Indian Air Force (IAF) is investigated through a Court of Inquiry and remedial measures are undertaken accordingly to check their recurrence in future. Besides, continuous and multi-faceted efforts are always underway in the IAF to enhance and upgrade flight safety. These include measures to enhance the quality of training to improve the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgement and situational awareness, of pilots and constant interaction with Original Equipment Manufactures (OEMs) to overcome technical defects of aircraft. Anti-bird measures are also undertaken.

Cross border infiltration

1403. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cross border infiltration has been on the rise;

(b) if so, the number of such cases noticed and the areas through which the infiltrations taken place;

(c) the reasons for the same; and

(d) the action taken to prevent cross border infiltration?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.